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Philadelphia Oct.r 4th 1857

GARRISON MSS.

My Dear Friend,

We learn with regret, that your presence at our Meeting is rendered somewhat doubtful, by the increased illness of Miss Benson. I need not say to you that your absence would be a great disappointment to your friends here, and to the public who have been invited to our meeting. As Miller Mc Kim is not very well today, and is very busy, I write in his stead, to say that if your absence is inevitable, the only way in which we can justify ourselves to the audience to whom we have promised yourself, Mr. Quincy and Mr. Bowditch, will be to present to them, in your place, Wendell Phillips. Nothing less than this will satisfy them. We shall, until the last hour, cherish the hope that you will be with us, but deem it necessary to provide for the threatened emergency, by stating to you how necessary a substitute will be, in case of your absence, and asking that you will exert your influence to induce Wendell Phillips to relieve us from the unpleasant necessity of so greatly disappointing our audiences. The present crisis demands of us an effective meeting. We have made arrangements for one which we have reason to hope will prove

such, and as an inducement to the public to attend it, we have extensively announced your expected presence. We have sometimes been censured by our audiences for disappointing them in such matters, and if, on so important an occasion as this, we must do it again, we would atone for it, in the best possible manner. Wendell must come, if you cannot. Please present these considerations to him and to Anne, and urge him, by his love to the cause, to be your substitute, should you be called to Northampton at the time of our Meeting.

Please give my love and the assurances of my warmest sympathy to dear Mrs. Garrison. I have not time, ~~to~~ now, to tell her, nor could I, if I had time, how sadly disappointed I am by the loss of her expected visit. But in her deep sorrow, I should forget my own disappointment.

Hoping to see you, next week, I remain,

Very truly Yrs.

Mary Grew.

PHILADA RAIL 1.

Mr. William L. Garrison,
No. 21 Cornhill,
Boston,
Mass.